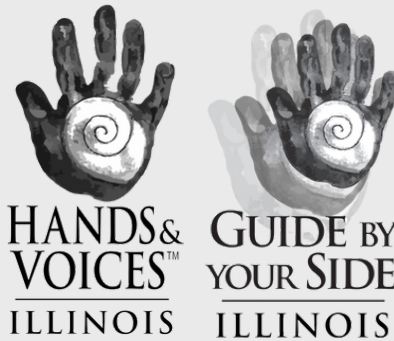


# Guide By Your Side Quarterly Report

April - June 2022



## CONTACT US:

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<https://www.ilhandsandvoices.org/guide-by-your-side>

## PROGRAM INFORMATION:

- 1 Program Coordinator
- Diversity & Equity Infusion Specialist
- Part C to Part B Transition Specialist
- LTF (Loss to Follow Up) Specialist
- 12 Parent Guides (PG)
  - Located throughout the state
  - Backgrounds vary in communication and amplification opportunities
  - Guides who are native Spanish speakers
  - Parent Guide who is Deaf

*"What works for your child is what makes the choice right."*™

## OUR MISSION:

Guide By Your Side (GBYS) provides unbiased emotional support and resources by trained Parent Guides to families with children who are deaf/hard of hearing.

Through IL Hands & Voices fundraising, personal donations and funding through the Illinois Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program, Illinois Hands & Voices Guide By Your Side is able to provide free services to families. Families can be referred to the program from providers or call directly to participate.

## WHAT WE HEAR...



Our Parent Guide was the first parent that I talked to about my son's hearing loss. And that was the time when I really needed someone to share my pain and fear about my son's future and many other concerns.

## HOW WE HELP

We connect families of children who are deaf/hard of hearing to trained Parent Guides for one-on-one support and personalized resources. If you know of or are a family that could use support, please reach out to us!

## CONNECT WITH US

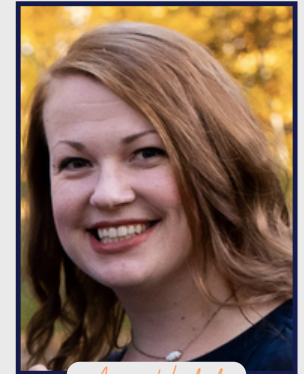


## CONGRATULATIONS!

We are so excited to announce that two of our Parent Guides have promoted within our IL Hands & Voices Guide By Your Side Leveled Recognition Program (LRP)! Ramona Martin has promoted to our highest level of the LRP by achieving the Senior Guide title. Amy Keslinke promoted to Lead Guide and then right to Senior Guide all within the same month! Incredible work ladies! The LRP focuses on developing leadership skills while encouraging involvement within our community and is used by all Guide By Your Side programs. Congratulations Amy & Ramona on your promotions! The Leveled Recognition Program (LRP) levels are Guide, Lead and Senior. The Guides can promote to the next level by participating in certain activities such as being a member on local and national committees, mentoring guides and presenting at conferences, just to name a few. Guides can work on tasks, activities and commitments on all levels simultaneously. Each level in our IL LRP program provides a new pay rate in addition to recognition for their outstanding achievement.



*Ramona Martin*



*Amy Keslinke*

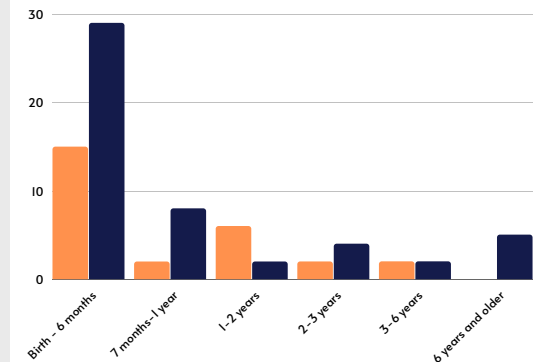
## DEI SPECIALIST

Recently we have expanded our team to include a DEI (Diversity & Equity Infusion) Specialist. Lydia Hernandez has been with us since 2013 as a bilingual Senior Parent Guide, she is now transitioning into the DEI Specialist role. This new role will provide outreach and help for families within underserved communities by connecting them to resources that meet their needs. She will also provide support and diversity training to our team. We are really excited about the opportunity to focus on connecting with populations that may often be overlooked and the ability to give all families in Illinois equal access to parent-to-parent resources.



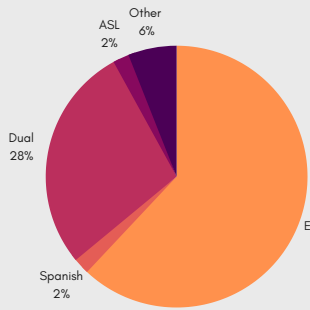
*Lydia Hernandez*

## FIRST & SECOND QUARTER COMPARISONS

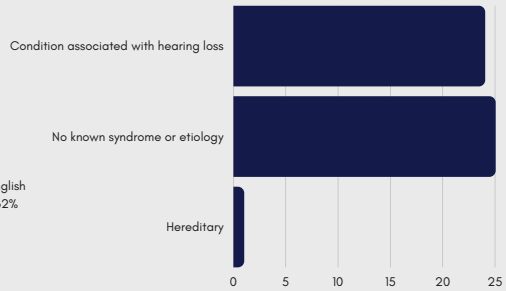


Orange bars represent 2022 first quarter GBYS child age at enrollment  
Blue bars represent 2022 second quarter GBYS child age at enrollment

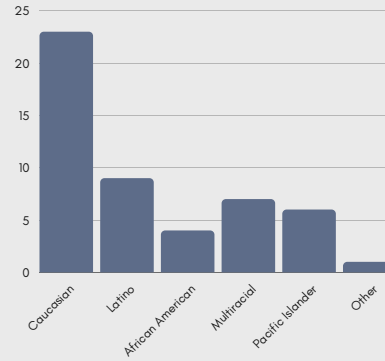
# GBYS Data from April - June 2022



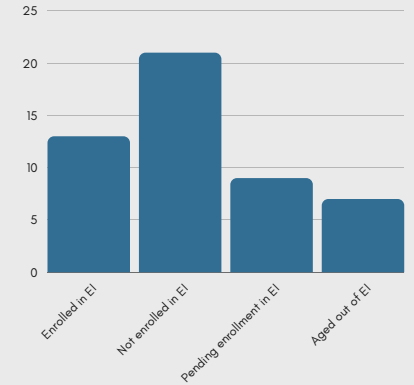
Primary language in the home



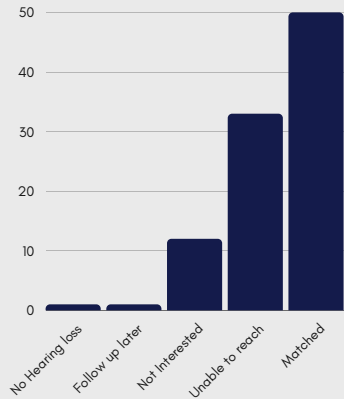
Medical history of enrolled child



Racial identity of enrolled child

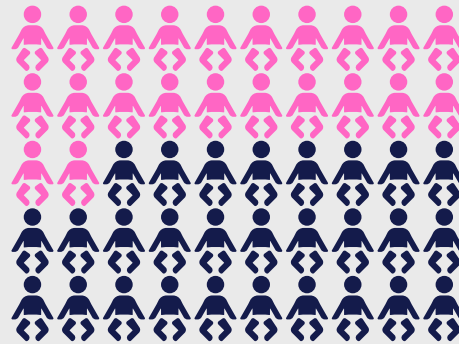


Early Intervention status at time of enrollment  
Pending enrollment means that the family has had contact with EI and is working through the enrollment process.



Enrollment status

Matched = 50, Unable to reach = 33, Not interested = 12  
Follow up with family at a later date = 1, No hearing loss = 1



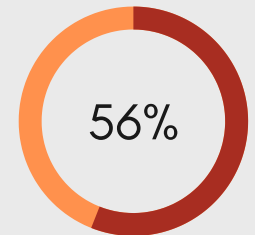
Gender of those enrolled

Pink = Female  
Blue = Male



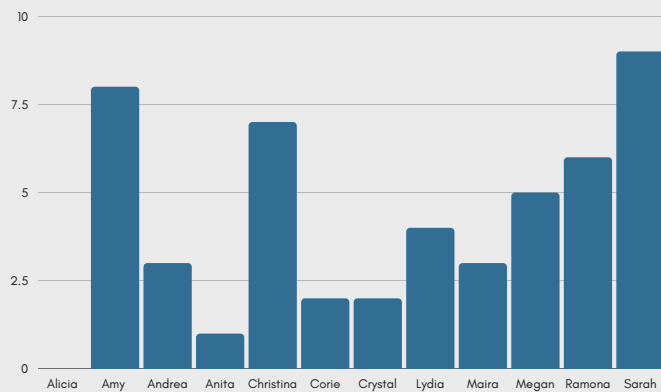
Unilateral vs. Bilateral hearing loss

Orange = Unilateral  
Blue = Bilateral



Amplification status at time of enrollment

Orange = Using hearing technology  
Red = No hearing technology in use



Parent Guide Matches



THIS QUARTERLY REPORT IS SUPPORTED IN PART BY GRANT FUNDING THROUGH THE IL EARLY HEARING DETECTION & INTERVENTION (EHDI) PROGRAM.